

every legislature for twenty years and have been defeated—by the newspapers? They want the dirty money.

### BOOK REVIEWS

**The Surgical Clinics of John B. Murphy, M. D.**, at Mercy Hospital, Chicago. October, 1912. Published Bi-monthly by W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London.

#### Contents.

Remarks on Anesthesia Made at Clinic.  
Nephrolothiasis.  
Cholecystitis.  
Gastroduodenal Ulcer—Gastro-enterostomy.  
Appendiceal Abscess.  
Colonic Adhesions Simulating Recurrent Appendicitis.  
Exophthalmic Goitre.  
Traumatic Lesion of Brain.  
Trifacial Neuralgia.  
Tumor of Spinal Cord.  
Chronic Mastitis.  
Recurrent Ovarian Cystosarcoma.  
Retroversion of Uterus.  
Rectocele and Perineal Laceration.  
Ununited Fracture, Shaft of Right Humerus.  
Osteitis Fibrosa Cystica of Right Humerus.  
Ankylosis of Left Elbow.  
Ankylosis of Right Hip-Joint.

**A Student's Manual of Surgical Diagnosis.** By George Emerson Brewer. Quarto. Cloth, pp. 40. D. Appleton & Co., New York and London, publishers. Price not stated.

There is a real want for a handy and practical compend of the methods of surgical diagnosis. This want Brewer's book does not fill, nor does it pretend to do so; its title is misleading, it is rather a student's guide for college courses in surgical differential diagnosis than a manual of diagnosis. It consists of a short exposition of the author's ideas on the teaching and practice of the differential diagnosis of surgical affections, illustrated by a number of case reports and discussions, and of 16 charts classifying surgical disorders. Four of these are general, classifying injuries, deformities, inflammation and new growths, respectively. The remaining twelve are regional and classify the surgical diseases according to localization. The book is evidently intended as a supplement and guide to Brewer's class-work at Columbia University. It should prove itself useful not only to his pupils, but to other students—and their teachers. L. E.

**Obstetrics.** A text-book for the use of students and practitioners. By J. Whitridge Williams, M. D., Professor of Obstetrics, Johns Hopkins University. Third edition; cloth; pp. 977, with 16 plates and 668 illustrations. New York and London: D. Appleton & Co. 1912. Price \$6.00.

This excellent text-book on obstetrics appears in practically the same style and size as the previous editions. Changes have been made to include the more recent studies of early human ova, of the indications for pubiotomy and Caesarian section, of pernicious vomiting of pregnancy, of the frequency of contracted pelvis in Baltimore and on the treatment of labor complicated by contracted pelvis. The bibliography at the end of each chapter has been extended and brought up to date.

While the text ranks equally high with the best American works on obstetrics and is an ideal reference book for both students and practitioners, it falls short of meeting the needs of the under-graduate student by being too comprehensive. The book will be best appreciated by young graduates entering on a training for special work in ob-

stetrics. The inspiration to get away from text-books and to dig in the library for original articles is met with in every chapter. The chapters on the toxemias of pregnancy are interesting and impressive and indicate a considerable amount of original work. However, it is in this section that in future editions one will probably note the most changes. The chapters dealing with the operative care of abnormal labor are full of good, sensible and sound advice for the general practitioner. The book is a credit not only to the author, to his clinic and to his assistants, but is a high tribute to the teacher of Williams—William H. Welch.

ALFRED BAKER SPALDING.

**The Principles of Human Physiology.** By Earnest Henry Starling, M. D. (London), F. R. C. P., F. R. S., Jodrell Professor of Physiology in University College, London. Octavo, 1423 pages, with 564 illustrations, some in color. Cloth, \$5.00 net. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1912.

This recent book by the Jodrell Professor of Physiology in the University College, London, is fully up to the high standard set by such books as those of the great English physiologists, Foster and Schaefer. When the thoroughly trained English scientist writes a text-book or a monograph, it is usually an admirable and comprehensive piece of work. The general attitude of Prof. Starling towards medicine makes his book unusually acceptable and valuable to the physician. This is indicated by the following statement in the preface: "The only foundation for rational therapeutics is the proper understanding of the working of the healthy body. Ignorance of physiology tends to make the medical man as credulous as his patients and almost as easily beguiled by the specious puffings of the advertising druggist."

The general excellence of this new physiology is so marked that it is with difficulty that one selects special subjects for comment. The chapters upon the properties of colloids and that upon ferments with the methods of studying them are particularly good. The value of Gaskell's Charts of the brains of various animals in making the organization of the nervous system clear is recognized and good use is made of them. A more complete discussion of the autonomic nervous system and of the work of McKenzie and Head upon skin areas of hypersensitivity in visceral disease would have been appreciated by the clinician. The addition of the chapter on immunity under the heading of "Chemical Mechanism of Defense" is indicative of the broad field covered by the modern physiologist. The relations of chemistry and physiology are well brought out, the illustrations unusually well chosen and far superior to those of the monumental work of Foster. It is a pleasure to see interpreted in a text-book of physiology many of the more recent and important contributions that have come to the subject through the clinician and medical laboratories. The discussion of the accommodation of the eye and of intraocular tension, the work of Cannon and Hertz on Roentgen Ray in the motor functions of the digestive tract, the work of Carlson on the causation of the heart-beat and the interpretation of the electro-cardiogram are all of especial interest. It seems certain that this book by Prof. Starling will prove to be as valuable to the English speaking medical world as his physiological work and laboratory have been to his own university.

R. L. W.

**"The Mosquito—Its Relation to Disease and Its Extermination."** By Alva H. Doty. Published by D. Appleton & Co., N. Y. and London. 1912.

The author of this small volume has attempted to present the more elementary facts concerning this insect in the simplest possible manner. In this